From: J. Jentink
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 1:40pm
Subject: U.S. v. Microsoft

Dear Sirs ____

I have been in the US computer industry since the late sixties and there
exists no threat to the long term American economy that approaches where
Microsoft is headed. Allowing them to continue their shady practices and
underhanded tactics based on monopoly and monetary power must stop. We
must come down on them hard and immediately. The proposed settlement is
less than a hand slap. We need some real teeth in terms of immediate
penalties to aid those harmed, a prohibition of Microsoft expanding
their tentacles into new areas and a totally independent mechanism for
makes certain their practices are brought back into the norm of honest
and fair business practices.

1) The quality and reliability of Microsoft products are at a level that
would be unacceptable in any field without monopoly control.

2) Any company that choices to partner with Microsoft has brought about
their own death. Some are bought but for most, their intellectual
property is usurped by Microsoft.

3) Almost no innovation is happening within the areas of Microsoft
control. Companies know that every innovation they introduce will
eventually be taken by the evil monopoly. For example, it is almost
impossible to get venture capital for software development today. The
people with the money know that Microsoft will use its power to take it
for their own and then they will have to pay the costs of fighting a
legal battle with the big money machine. They know historically that
there is not winning, eventually Microsoft will prevail.

4) The only things that Microsoft seems to be afraid of today are truly
open standards that they can not "embrace and extend" and the Linux
"free and open" operating system. One should note that Linux is a
essentially a product of Europe and often associated with their
institutions of higher learning. There is little input from US
institutions since our universities take our public money but instead of
giving new technologies and software developed using this money back to
the public, they sell or license them for additional income.

If these trends continue, the world will eventually need a solution to
the high cost and low quality of Microsoft products. By that time, only
countries like India and China or the EU will have the ability to
produce systems and products independent of Microsoft's control. Such a
turn of events will dramatically reduce our now dominant position in
computing, networking and information engineering to that of a third

rate contributor, with a heavy toll on our economy and quality of life.

Thank you for your attention,

J. Jentink